

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of :  
Winston Donald Keech : Group Art Unit: UNASSIGNED  
Serial No.: Examiner: UNASSIGNED  
Filed: October 19, 2001 :  
For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR IDENTITY VERIFICATION DURING SECURE TRANSACTIONS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to substantive examination on the merits, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment.

**In the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0001] on page 1, line 1, with the following written paragraph::

-- The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application 09/915,271, filed July 27, 2001 which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 09/663,281, filed September 15, 2000 which claims priority from U.K. Patent Application Number GB 0021964.2, filed September 7, 2000, all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. --

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-23.

**R E M A R K S**

Claims 1-23 are cancelled. Applicant reserves the right to claim the subject matter of claims 1-23 in this application. Claims 24-31 are presently under consideration

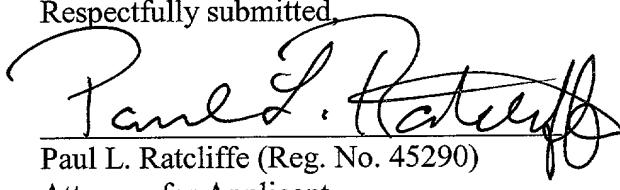
The amendment to paragraph [0001] does not add new matter. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

**CONCLUSION**

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite the prosecution.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0653.

Respectfully submitted,



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Filed: October 19, 2001

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

In the Specification:

Paragraph [0001] at page 1, the first full paragraph has been amended as follows:

The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application 09/915,271, filed July 27, 2001 which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application 09/663,281, filed September 15, 2000 which claims priority from U.K. Patent Application Number GB 0021964.2, filed September 7, 2000, both all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.